



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/904,665	07/16/2001	Ki-Hyub Sung	P56406	6179

7590 01/19/2005

Robert E. Bushnell
Suite 300
1522 K Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20005

EXAMINER

CHANG, YEAN HSI

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2835

DATE MAILED: 01/19/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/904,665

Applicant(s)

SUNG, KI-HYUB

Examiner

Yean-Hsi Chang

Art Unit

2835

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 December 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 3,5-10 and 15-32 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 3,5-7,10,15-17 and 20-32 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 8,9,18 and 19 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on Dec. 27, 2004 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 5-6, 21, 24-25, 28-29 and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Nakamura et al. (US 5,768,095).

Nakamura teaches a display apparatus comprising: a panel (52, fig. 6) bearing a screen (inherent feature, not labeled) disposed to display varying visual images, a panel support (61, fig. 6) holding the panel, a bezel (53, fig. 6) framing a front periphery of the

Art Unit: 2835

panel, a rear cover (51, fig. 4) removably mating with said bezel while encasing said panel held by said panel support, at least one rib (edge portion of 57b', better seen in fig. 10A) formed to project from a peripheral surface of the bezel (fig. 10A), at least one deformable coupling (57b, fig. 4) bearing a groove (on the right hand side of the upper end portion of 57b shown in fig. 10A, not labeled), extending from an inner surface of the rear cover (fig. 10B), oriented to embrace a correspond rib during said mating (see fig. 10A) wherein the rib is inserted in the groove (shown in fig. 10A) (claims 21, 25 and 29); at least one stop (shown next to lower edge of 61 in fig. 7A; not labeled) extending from an inner surface of said bezel engaging said support while maintaining said bezel surrounding said screen (claims 24, 28 and 32); at least a pair of stops (only the cross-sectional view of one side of 53 and 61 in fig. 6 is shown in fig. 7, similar view of the other side not shown) protruding from said rear surface of the bezel to engage the panel support and prevent the panel support from moving across a plane of the panel (claim 5); and/or at least four stops disposed to be adjacent to four corner portions (the sectional view in fig. 7 is taken adjacent to one portion of a corner of the bezel 53 in fig. 6; same view may be at four corner portions) of the rear surface, and protrude from said rear surface of the bezel to engage the panel support and prevent the panel support from moving across a plane of the panel (claim 6).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 15-16, 22-23, 26-27 and 30-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nakamura et al.

Nakamura discloses the claimed invention except one rib and one coupling being disposed at each corner portion of the rear cover and the bezel, respectively, or at each corner of the bezel and rear cover, respectively.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the device with one rib and one coupling at each corner portion of the rear cover and the bezel, respectively, or at each corner portion of the bezel and the rear cover, respectively, since it has been held that mere duplication of the essential working parts of a device and rearranging parts of an invention involves only routine skill in the art. MPEP §2144.04 VI B & C.

6. Claims 7 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over Nakamura et al. in view of Lee et al. (US 6,587,166 B1).

The applied reference has a common assignee with the instant application. Based upon the earlier effective U.S. filing date of the reference, it constitutes prior art only under 35 U.S.C. 102(e). This rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) might be overcome by: (1) a showing under 37 CFR 1.132 that any invention disclosed but not claimed in

the reference was derived from the inventor of this application and is thus not an invention "by another"; (2) a showing of a date of invention for the claimed subject matter of the application which corresponds to subject matter disclosed but not claimed in the reference, prior to the effective U.S. filing date of the reference under 37 CFR 1.131; or (3) an oath or declaration under 37 CFR 1.130 stating that the application and reference are currently owned by the same party and that the inventor named in the application is the prior inventor under 35 U.S.C. 104, together with a terminal disclaimer in accordance with 37 CFR 1.321(c). For applications filed on or after November 29, 1999, this rejection might also be overcome by showing that the subject matter of the reference and the claimed invention were, at the time the invention was made, owned by the same person or subject to an obligation of assignment to the same person. See MPEP § 706.02(I)(1) and § 706.02(I)(2).

Nakamura discloses the claimed invention except a hook is formed at a leading edge of each stop for engaging an edge of the panel support.

Lee teaches a display apparatus comprising 4 stops (535, only one is shown, fig. 10; also see col. 11, lines 41-46) disposed to be adjacent to four corner portions of a rear surface (100, fig. 1), and protrude from a rear surface of a bezel (500, fig. 10) to engage a panel support (400, fig. 1) and prevent the panel support from moving across a plane of a panel (300, fig. 1), wherein a hook (shown in fig. 10, not labeled) is formed at a leading edge of each stop (shown in fig. 10) for engaging an edge (shown in fig. 15, not labeled) of the panel support.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the device of Nakamura with the display apparatus taught by Lee for holding the display apparatus properly assembled.

Allowable Subject Matter

7. Claims 8-9 and 18-19 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

8. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: The best prior art of record, Nakamura et al. (US 5,768,095), Lee et al. (US 6,587,166 B1), and Sasai et al. (US 6,426,803 B1), taken alone or in combination, fails to teach or reasonably suggest a display apparatus comprising: a panel bearing a screen, a panel support holding the panel, a bezel framing a front peripheral of the panel, a rear cover removably mating with the bezel; and, in addition, a plurality of support ribs protruding from the rear cover so as to contact each of four stops disposed to be adjacent to four corner portions of a rear surface of the bezel to force a hook of each stop toward an edge of the panel to support the engagement of the hook and the edge of the panel as set forth in claims 8 and 18; or an edge of the panel is formed with a projection allowing a hook of each of four stops disposed to be adjacent to four corner portions of a rear surface of the bezel to overlap the projection to support the engagement of the hook and the edge of the panel as set forth in claims 9 and 19.

Response to Arguments

9. Applicant's arguments filed Dec. 27, 2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant's arguments will be answered as follows:

1. Regarding claims 21, 25 and 29, Applicant argues element 57b' of Nakamura is not a "rib", and element 57b having no groove. Figs. 10A and 10B of Nakamura indicate clearly a rib being in the region of element 57b', and a groove formed at 57b. In addition, referring to Merriam Webster Collegiate Dictionary, "a groove" is "a long narrow channel or depression"; so the groove formed at 57b as shown in figs. 10A and 10B meets the definition. Therefore, the rejection of claims 21, 25 and 29 is not in error, and so is the rejection of claims 5-6, 21, 24-25, 28-29 and 32.

2. Applicant argues the side walls of Nakamura being easily deformable at central portion and "would not be deformable near the four corners". A deformable wall may be easier to be deformed at a central portion and would still be deformable NEAR the corner portions.

3. Applicant argues element 450 of Lee is not equivalent as a rib and there is no groove born by Lee's element 535. As indicated in the office action, the edge of element 450 is considered as a rib and fig. 10 of Lee shows element 535 bearing a groove. Therefore, the rejection is not in error.

4. Regarding claims 6-7, 15 and 17, there is no motivation in Lee to modify Nakamura. The office action mailed 8/25/04 has indicated the modification is for the

display apparatus to be properly assembled, and Lee teaches in col. 12, lines 6-11, element 535 is for easily assembling of the display apparatus.

5. Regarding claims 6-7, 15 and 17, Applicant argues "there is no disclosure that sidewalls 140 contacted with each stop (protrusions 535) to force the hook of each stop toward the edge of the panel support to support the engagement of the hook and the edge of the panel support". From the inter-relationship of figs. 1, 2, 9, 10, 14 and 15 of Lee one having ordinary skill in the art would be able to see that element 535 is to be inserted between the side wall 140 of case 100 and side wall of 400 in order to engage with 450 when assembled. Wall 140 is, therefore, closely behind 535, and the movement of 535 is limited.

6. Regarding claims 3, 10 and 20, Applicant argues no tool access hole being needed. As stated above, element 535 is engaged with element 540. To disengage, it would be better to have a tool access hole in the back of the cover element 100.

Correspondence

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Yean-Hsi Chang whose telephone number is (571) 272-2038. The examiner can normally be reached on 07:30 - 16:00.

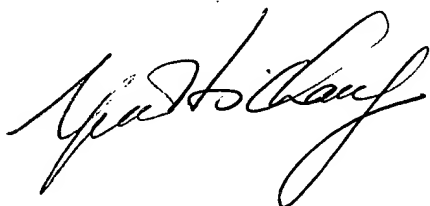
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Art Unit phone number is (571) 272-2800, ext. 35. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 305-3431 for regular

Art Unit: 2835

communications and for After Final communications. There are RightFax numbers and provide the fax sender with an auto-reply fax verifying receipt by the USPTO: Before-Final (703-872-9318) and After-Final (703-872-9319).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-8558.

Yean-Hsi Chang
Primary Examiner
Art Unit: 2835
January 16, 2005

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Yean-Hsi Chang', written in a cursive style.